

Remarks

The Applicants kindly request that Claims 1-7 be cancelled and request the entry of new Claims 8-23. Support for new Claims 8-23 can be found throughout the Specification, and more specifically on pages 3-4 and 6-8. No new matter is being added in these claims.

The Applicants are amending page 2, line 25 of the Specification by changing the phrase "57000 kilodaltons" to "57 kilodaltons". Applicants believe that the Specification contained a typographical error on page 2, line 25 because on page 2, line 31, the Specification discusses "p57 protein" which is the same protein referred to previously in the paragraph as "57000 kilodaltons". The Applicants believe that the referred to protein's molecular weight is 57 kDA, not 57,000 kDa. No new matter is added to the Specification by this correction.

The Applicants are amending page 4, lines 1-3 of the Specification to correct the name of the American Type Culture Collection (ATCC) and to add the address of ATCC as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.801-1.809. No new matter is being introduced in this amendment.

The Applicants are also amending page 4, line 27 of the Specification to add the sequence listing identification number at the end of the DNA sequence. No new matter is being added to the Specification because the sequence listing was submitted along with the application.

The Applicants are also amending page 1 of the application to add information about the priority claim for this patent application. This amendment is being made at the time of filing the patent application thus no fee is required.

Applicants request that all correspondence be directed to the address associated with Customer Number 001095 which is currently as follows:

Thomas Hoxie
Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080

Any questions or issues can be directed to the below signed attorney at this address. Thank you for your assistance with this matter.

Respectfully submitted,



David L. Marks
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 37,881

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 430
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7922 Date:
August 5, 2003